FANTASTIC FOUR
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Fantastic Four
THE MADNESS OF THE MOLE MAN!
MARVEL COMICS GROUP

MR. AMERICA-MR. UNIVERSE

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*MONEY-BACK GUARANTEE*

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AS WE DRAW CLOSER... CLOSER... WE ARE ABLE TO PEER DIMLY INSIDE... SEEING A MODERN, SPACIOUS, BUT SOMEHOW ALIEN INTERIOR WINDING BEFORE US--
AT FIRST GLANCE, ALL SEEMS PEACEFUL ENOUGH! THE NEWLY-ARRIVED FURNITURE, SOME STILL PACKED IN CRATES, STANDS WAITING TO BE CAREFULLY ARRANGED...
BUT, AS WE SLOWLY VENTURE FURTHER, THRU THE TWISTING, WINDING CORRIDORS, WE SEE DRAMATIC SHADOWS GYRATING ON THE WALLS ... AND REALIZE WE ARE WITNESSING THE FIRST SIGNS OF... A DESPERATE BATTLE!
AND, THOSE OF US WHO THRILLED TO THE CLOSING PANELS OF OUR PREVIOUS ISSUE WILL REMEMBER THAT THE TRUE OWNER OF THIS UNCANNY BUILDING HAS REVEALED HIMSELF TO BE... THE MURDEROUS MOLE MAN...!
THOUGH I ALLOWED YOU TO ENTER THIS HOUSE... OF WHICH I AM THE MASTER--
...YOU WILL NEVER LEAVE IT... ALIVE!
2

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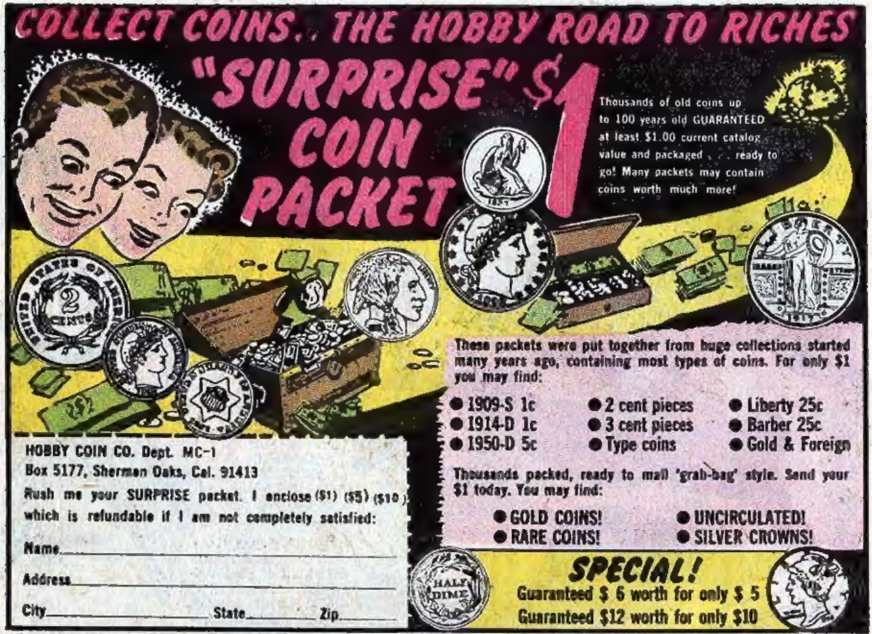
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No. 130 $1.00
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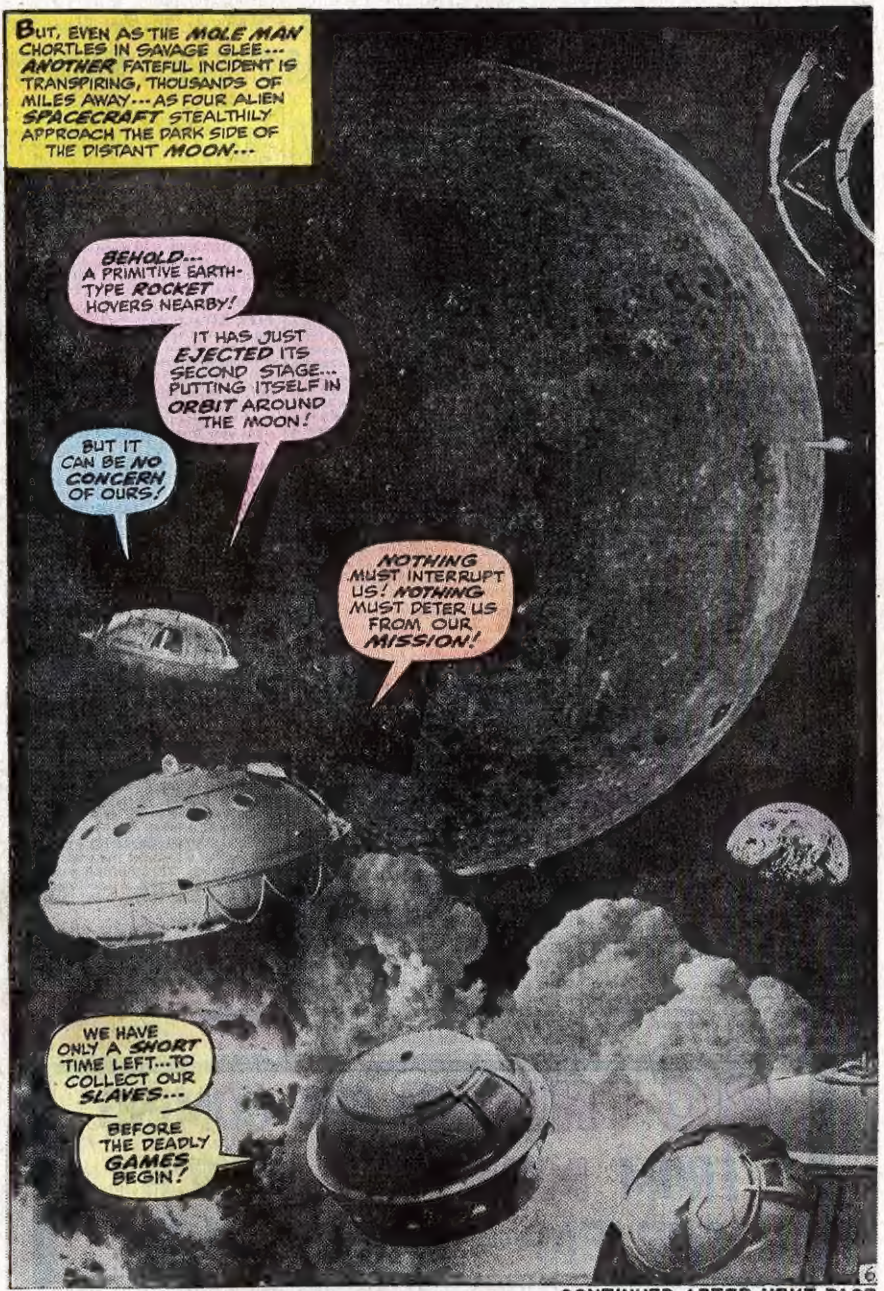
CLEVER OF YOU, RICHARDS... STRIKING IN THE DIRECTION OF MY VOICE!
BUT, YOU ARE OUT OF YOUR ELEMENT...
WHILE I BATTLE IN THE MANNER I FIGHT BEST!
HAVING LIVED SO LONG IN MY SHADOWY SUBTERRANEAN KINGDOM, I NO LONGER HAVE NEED OF SIGHT!
I CAN SENSE YOUR EVERY MOVEMENT... SUCH AS THE THING'S CLUMSY ATTACK...
WHICH I CAN EASILY PARRY ...BY TRIPPING HIM WITH MY INFALLIBLE STAFF!
IF ONLY... I COULD GIT ONE LOOK AT YA... SEE WHERE YA ARE...!
TOO MANY TIMES YOU HAVE DEFEATED ME IN THE PAST---
BUT THIS TIME, MY PLAN IS FLAWLESS!
YOU CANNOT SUCCESSFULLY FIGHT A FOE YOU CANNOT SEE!
NO... NOT EVEN THE ASTOUNDING HUMAN TORCH... WITH ALL YOUR ACCURSED POWER OF FLAME... CAN STOP ME!
SO LONG AS YOUR HELPLESS PARTNERS ARE ALL AROUND US, YOU DO NOT DARE TO USE YOUR FIRE RECKLESSLY...
AND, WITH YOUR VISION CLOUDED... YOU CAN'T BE SURE WHERE I AM!
4

HOW SIMPLE IT IS FOR ME TO DODGE YOUR FEEBLE, FUMBLING, SO-CALLED ATTACK!
BUT THE TIME IS COME TO DO MORE THAN TAUNT YOU...
HAVING HAD MY AMUSEMENT, I NOW MUST END OUR LITTLE GAME!
THUS, WHILE YOU LIE THERE HELPLESS... I'LL ACHIEVE MY FIRST TOTAL TRIUMPH!
NO! NO.. ...YOU MUSN'T!
CRYSTAL! YOUR ELEMENTAL POWER! AT THE SOUND OF HIS VOICE... NOW, GIRL... NOW!
BUT... IF IT INJURES JOHNNY?
THERE'S NO OTHER CHOICE! THE MOLE MAN IS CAPABLE OF ANYTHING!
SCATTER YOUR PRESSURE BLASTS! KEEP HIM MOVING!!
I'LL USE ONLY HALF POWER... JUST IN CASE!
A MOST WISE DECISION, YOUNG LADY!
I CAN EASILY VAULT OUT OF HARM'S WAY---
BUT I FEAR YOU HAVE INJURED THE THE ONE YOU SOUGHT TO SAVE!
THRAK!
5

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# WELCOME TO THE WONDERFUL, WAY-OUT WORLD OF MARVEL MADNESS!

We're cramped for space this ish, so we'll make it short and sweet —

**ITEM!** You've heard how comedians always dream of playing Hamlet? Well, Trusty TOM SUTTON, who's been one of the humorous mainstays of NOT BRAND ECHH, has always wanted to tackle penciling a super-hero strip. And so we urge you to latch on to this month's CAPTAIN MARVEL — new artwork — new approach — new thrills — but the same ol' loveable Tom, just a'doin' his thing!

**ITEM!** Big news! We've some brand new mags coming up for you next month! They're in the spooky story and the romance categories — and all in the modern, meaningful Marvel manner. So save your money, bunny, and go easy on luxuries like food, clothing, and shelter. Watch these pages next ish and be ready for anything!

**ITEM!** Didja notice the new MARVEL SUPER-HEROES? Nothing to get excited about — all it contains is some honest-to-Forbush Lee-Kirby AVENGERS, featuring the HULK, THOR, IRON MAN, SUB-MARINER — plus Lee-Kirby's X-MEN, and a few more surprises! If it's already sold out, now you know why!

**ITEM!** Generous GEORGIE KLEIN finally took the plunge and got himself wedded a few weeks ago — after one of the longest engagements on record — a mere 18 years! One thing we've gotta say about ol' George — he'd be okay if he weren't so impetuous!

**ITEM!** Here's one of the latest Marvel-mention record albums we've heard of — it's the new MOTHER EARTH smasheroo, entitled "Living with the Animals", and the very first number is called "Marvel Group"! (Ta ta ta ta, ta ta!) 'Twas penned by vocalist POWELL ST. JOHN, and brought to our attention by manager TRAVIS RIVERS, who personally gave us a few complimentary copies! Many thanks, gang — it's the wildest!

**ITEM!** No more items! (Nyahhh!)

## STAN'S SOAPBOX

As you've already noticed, the price of our magniloquent mags has just risen from 12¢ to 15¢ . . . but far be it from us to make so monumental a move without cluing you in to the whys and wherefores. At a time when the prices of just about everything you can think of keep rising daily, our mighty Marvels have been holding the line at 12¢ for the past seven years! However, in our never-ending efforts to bring you nothing but the very best, we have regularly increased the payments that we make to artists, writers, printers, etc. It's finally reached the point where we MUST raise our selling price to 15¢ or sacrifice the quality of our comics — and THAT we would never do. That's it, Believer . . . the whole ball of wax. But now, let's look at the bright side — today you can buy your majestic Marvel mags even faster . . . 'cause you don't have to fumble around with pennies! Just another glowing example of how we strive eternally to make your life easier.

Excelsior!
Smiley

## THE MIGHTY MARVEL CHECKLIST

### Marvel-ous Mags On Sale Right Now!

**SILVER SURFER #7:** Once again the name of FRANKENSTEIN spreads fear thruout the land — and only the SILVER SURFER can save mankind from the strangest threat of all!

**FANTASTIC FOUR #89:** The return of the dreaded SKRULLS! But this time, it isn't merely earth that's in dire danger — the target for an unmentionable fate is — the unsuspecting THING!

**SPIDER-MAN #75:** From out of nowhere, a startling sudden DEATH now strikes without warning — even as a newer, more fearful SUPER-FOE arises once more to menace our weary web-slinger!

**AVENGERS #66:** The one you've been waiting for! THOR and IRON MAN return to the ranks! But, can even they prevail when the vengeful VISION goes wild? Plus a cataclysmic surprise ending!

**X-MEN #58:** The sinister SENTINELS seem on the verge of total victory over earth's mutants — then, enter the X-Men, and the mysterious man called . . . HAVOK! It's a brain-blaster!

**DAREDEVIL #54:** From out of the peril-laden past — with the one power which DD cannot fight — comes the macabre MR. FEAR! Also — the seeming death of Matt Murdock! Shock follows shock!

**MIGHTY THOR #166:** At last the GOD OF THUNDER loses his cool and goes berserk! If it's action you're after, don't miss this staggering showdown between THOR and — HIM!

**CAPTAIN AMERICA #116:** Never has the RED SKULL been more powerful — or CAP more helpless! Trapped by the COSMIC CUBE — there can be no escape! Not for the faint-hearted!

**INCREDIBLE HULK #116:** Green-Skin battles the sensational SUB-MARINER! What more need we say — except to tell you that STAN THE MAN and HAPPY HERBIE TRIMPE bought a dozen each themselves!

**IRON MAN #116:** The most unexpected team-up of all — Shellhead and the uncanny UNICORN — against the rampaging RED GHOST! And wait'll you learn how ol' Ghosty plans to conquer the world!

**SUB-MARINER #16:** We call this one "The Sea That Time Forgot!" — but you'll never forget what happens when Namor clashes with the evil TIGER SHARK — in the weirdest setting yet!

**CAPTAIN MARVEL #15:** Mission — Destroy the Kree Galaxy! This is the awesome command of the almighty ZO to the man called Mar-Vell — and that's just the beginning! A must!

**SGT. FURY #68:** Ever wonder if our stogie-smokin' sarge had a family? Well, you're gonna MEET 'em — in this ish! But, if you think that's ALL that's going to happen — forget it!

**CAPT. SAVAGE #15:** "Within the Temple Waits . . . Death!" And, as a matter of fact, the whole Indo-Chinese jungle is crawling with danger for our Raider buddies! Dig an offbeat war mag? This is it!

**COLLECTORS' ITEM CLASSICS #22:** Want more of the F.F. — Dr. Strange — and Iron Man? You got it! PLUS, a bombshell bonus — the very first appearance of Henry Pym . . . the ANT-MAN!

**RAWHIDE KID #71:** The most dreaded cry of all is heard on the frontier: "Indian War!" It's Rawhide at his sluggin', six-shootin' best — against the most deadly enemy in the West!

**MILLIE THE MODEL #173 and CHILI #4:** Here we are again, with two of the zingiest, zaniest, zilchiest ha-ha mags in town! They're glamorous, groovy, and goofy! Try 'em!

**MAD ABOUT MILLIE #3:** Twice as much Millie-madness for less than twice the price! How can you miss? It's worth the cost alone to see how often Smiley's name appears!

*AND STILL ON SALE —*

**SHIELD #13:** A nation writhes in the merciless grasp of . . . the SUPER-PATROIT! And Nick Fury is helpless to strike back — because he's been branded a traitor! Don't miss it!

**DR. STRANGE #181:** Our magical mentor is defeated in mystic battle — not by the harrowing hordes of NIGHTMARE — but by the awesome power of his own cloak and amulet! A must!

**MARVEL SUPER-HEROES #21:** The super-hero thrill of a lifetime! The original AVENGERS battling SUB-MARINER and the incredible HULK — also, a Lee-Kirby X-MEN epic extraordinaire! Plus — but that would be telling!

**MARVEL TALES #21:** Thor — the Human Torch — and Spidey makes three! And, in case you hadn't guessed — we're throwing a sinister super-baddie or two at you, as well! Bargain days are here again!

BIG THINGS ARE COMING FROM MARVEL! WATCH FOR 'EM--- 'NUFF SAID!

Don Bolander, M.A., University of Chicago; B.S., Northwestern University; Director of Career Institute; authority on adult education

# Shamed by Your English?

*You can soon speak and write like a college graduate if you let me help you for 15 minutes a day.*

If you've ever been shamed by a mistake in English, maybe I can save you from years of disappointment.

I have met countless numbers of intelligent men and women who are being held back in their jobs and social lives, often without knowing it, because they cannot express themselves fully and easily.

**WHAT ABOUT YOU?**

If people are not impressed by the way you speak and write—and if you're honest enough with yourself to admit it—you have already taken the first big step to success.

**HERE'S WHAT TO DO**

You can master good English *without going back to school.* Over the years I have helped thousands of men and women *right in their own homes.*

I can help you, too, if you will give 15 minutes a day to the C. I. Method. My answers to the following questions explain why you need a command of good English and how easily you can *do* something about getting ahead.

**Question:** *What is so important about my ability to speak and write?*

**Answer:** People judge you by the way you speak and write, both in business and in social life.

**Question:** *What does a "command of good English" mean?*

**Answer:** It means you can express yourself clearly and easily without fear of embarrassment or making mistakes.

**Question:** *Are there other advantages to be gained by acquiring a command of good English?*

**Answer:** Yes! Words are actually "tools of thought." The more you learn about words and how to use them to form and express your ideas, the better your *thinking* becomes.

**Question:** *Wouldn't I have to go back to school for a command of good English?*

**Answer:** No, not any more. You can gain the ability to speak and write like a college graduate right in your own home in only 15 minutes each day.

**Question:** *How do I know your method works?*

**Answer:** There are thousands of letters in my files, testimonials from people in all walks of life who have used the proved Career Institute Method to achieve amazing results. If you send in the coupon below, I will share some of these letters with you.

**Question:** *How can I find out more about the Career Institute Method?*

**Answer:** I will gladly mail a free 32-page booklet to you. Just mail Coupon or send a postcard to: Don Bolander, Dept. 208-42, 555 E. Lange St., Mundelein, Ill. 60060.

**DON BOLANDER, Dept. 208-42, Career Institute,**
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Please mail me a free copy of your 32-page booklet, "How to Gain a Command of Good English."

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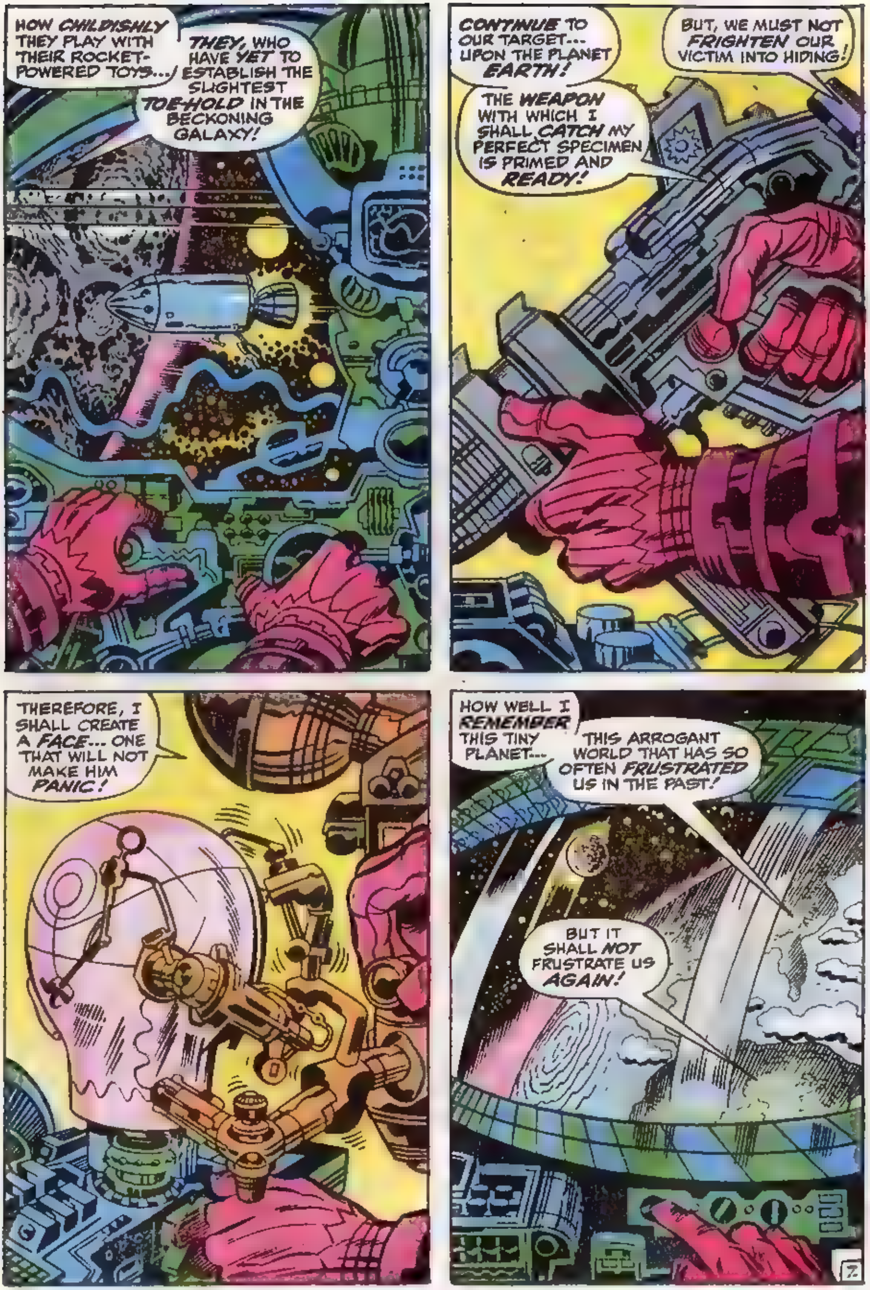

HOW CHILDISHLY THEY PLAY WITH THEIR ROCKET-POWERED TOYS...
THEY, WHO HAVE YET TO ESTABLISH THE SLIGHTEST TOE-HOLD IN THE BECKONING GALAXY!
CONTINUE TO OUR TARGET... UPON THE PLANET EARTH!
BUT, WE MUST NOT FRIGHTEN OUR VICTIM INTO HIDING!
THE WEAPON WITH WHICH I SHALL CATCH MY PERFECT SPECIMEN IS PRIMED AND READY!
THEREFORE, I SHALL CREATE A FACE... ONE THAT WILL NOT MAKE HIM PANIC!
HOW WELL I REMEMBER THIS TINY PLANET...
THIS ARROGANT WORLD THAT HAS SO OFTEN FRUSTRATED US IN THE PAST!
BUT IT SHALL NOT FRUSTRATE US AGAIN!
7

EVEN THOUGH OUR KING... THE SKRULL SUPREME... HAS ORDERED EARTH OFF-LIMITS TO OUR CONQUERING STAR FLEETS...
THAT IS ONE ORDER WHICH I CHOOSE TO DISOBEY!
NOTHING IN ALL THE SKRULL GALAXY IS MORE IMPORTANT THAN...THE GAMES!
AND I...THE SLAVER...MUST BRING TO THE GAMES THE GREATEST PLAYER OF ALL!
THERE BELOW ME... ON THAT WAITING PLANET...IS THE VICTIM I SEEK...
THE VICTIM WHO WILL FETCH ME THE HIGHEST PRICE EVER PAID FOR A CAPTIVE PLAYER!
NOTHING MUST STOP ME FROM CAPTURING HIM... AND BRINGING HIM AS MY GREATEST PRIZE... TO THE WORLD OF... THE SKRULLS!!
8

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# EVERY TIME YOU TWIST THE TWISTER...

## IT CAN PUT MONEY IN YOUR POCKET!

## EARN $50-$100-$200 A WEEK WITH AMERICA'S NEWEST AND WILDEST BODYBUILDING IDEA!

**PROVED EFFECTIVE BY CHAMPION ATHLETES AND BODYBUILDERS!**
***The 007 POWER TWISTER!***

***IT'S A PROVEN MONEY-MAKER!***

**USE IT — SHOW IT — DEMONSTRATE IT — AND LINE YOUR POCKET WITH**
***INSTANT CASH!***

The "007" **POWER TWISTER** is the most sensational exerciser to come along in years. It builds powerful arms, chest and shoulders more quickly than you can imagine — it's the FUN muscle builder that has taken the country by storm! Needs no adjustment of any kind — No fuss — Use it just as it comes out of the package.

Be the first to get in on this big profit-maker NOW! Use it yourself to pack your body with muscle and power — let your family use it, too. Sold by the hundreds of thousands, it's the greatest single exerciser ever invented — and now the *greatest money-maker!*

**CASH IN ON THE BIG PHYSICAL FITNESS BOOM NOW!**

Never before have people of all ages become as physical-fitness conscious as they are today. They want to look better, feel better and stronger . . . have the vitality and youth that makes life worth living. The "007" **TWISTER** will help them. Just a few minutes with the **TWISTER** every day will improve your strength, health, shape and muscular development.

Here's your golden opportunity to get in on something really big! You take orders for the **TWISTER** in your spare time and make more money than you could possibly make with any other sales plan.

**YOUR PROSPECTS ARE EVERYWHERE!**

You don't have to go "digging" for prospects to sell the **TWISTER**—you'll find them everywhere because *everyone* wants to be physically fit. Your friends, relatives, local businessmen, schools, athletic clubs and all who know you will want the **TWISTER** for themselves. You show them how it easily packs inches of healthy muscle on arms, chest, shoulders and back.

**START NOW AND GROW INTO A BIG MONEY BUSINESS OF YOUR OWN!**

Just a couple of hours after school or work is all you need to start making good money selling the **TWISTER**. Then you can qualify for —

**OUR FABULOUS "MILLION DOLLAR" PYRAMID PLAN WHICH MAY EVEN MAKE YOU RICH!**

This amazing plan is designed so that you'll *double*, *triple* and *quadruple* your earnings in an unbelievably short time—

**THE SKY'S THE LIMIT!** The complete plan is given to you in detail in the *FREE sales course* you get when you mail the coupon below.

**YOU STOCK NO MERCHANDISE — YOU GET YOUR CASH "RIGHT ON-THE-SPOT"!**

You take the orders, collect your big cash commissions "on-the-spot", send us the orders along with the balance on each **TWISTER**. We ship the **TWISTERS** to you, you deliver them to your customers. *That's all there is to it!*

**YOU ARE BACKED UP WITH NATIONAL ADVERTISING AND PUBLICITY!**

We've pre-sold the **TWISTER** for you through our full page ads in national magazines read by millions. It's up to you to get out there and get the orders that are waiting for you!

**SEND FOR YOUR FREE SALES COURSE AND KIT**
**TODAY!**

If you are interested in making more money than you've ever seen before—**MAIL THE COUPON NOW** and we'll send you the full, wonderful profit story and FREE sales course to start you off immediately. **REMEMBER, YOU STOCK NO MERCHANDISE** and you get your cash "on-the-spot." SEND NOW — get in on this "ground-floor" opportunity right away—before someone else in your area does!

**WEIDER DISTRIBUTORS, Inc.**
531 - 32nd [illegible]
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Product Sales Div., Dept.03-79AP1
531 - 32nd Street
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I want to make big money right away with the TWISTER and fabulous "Million Dollar" Pyramid Plan. Send me the free sales course and full details of this profit-making opportunity right away. I understand I am under no obligation. Enclosed is 25¢ to cover postage and handling.

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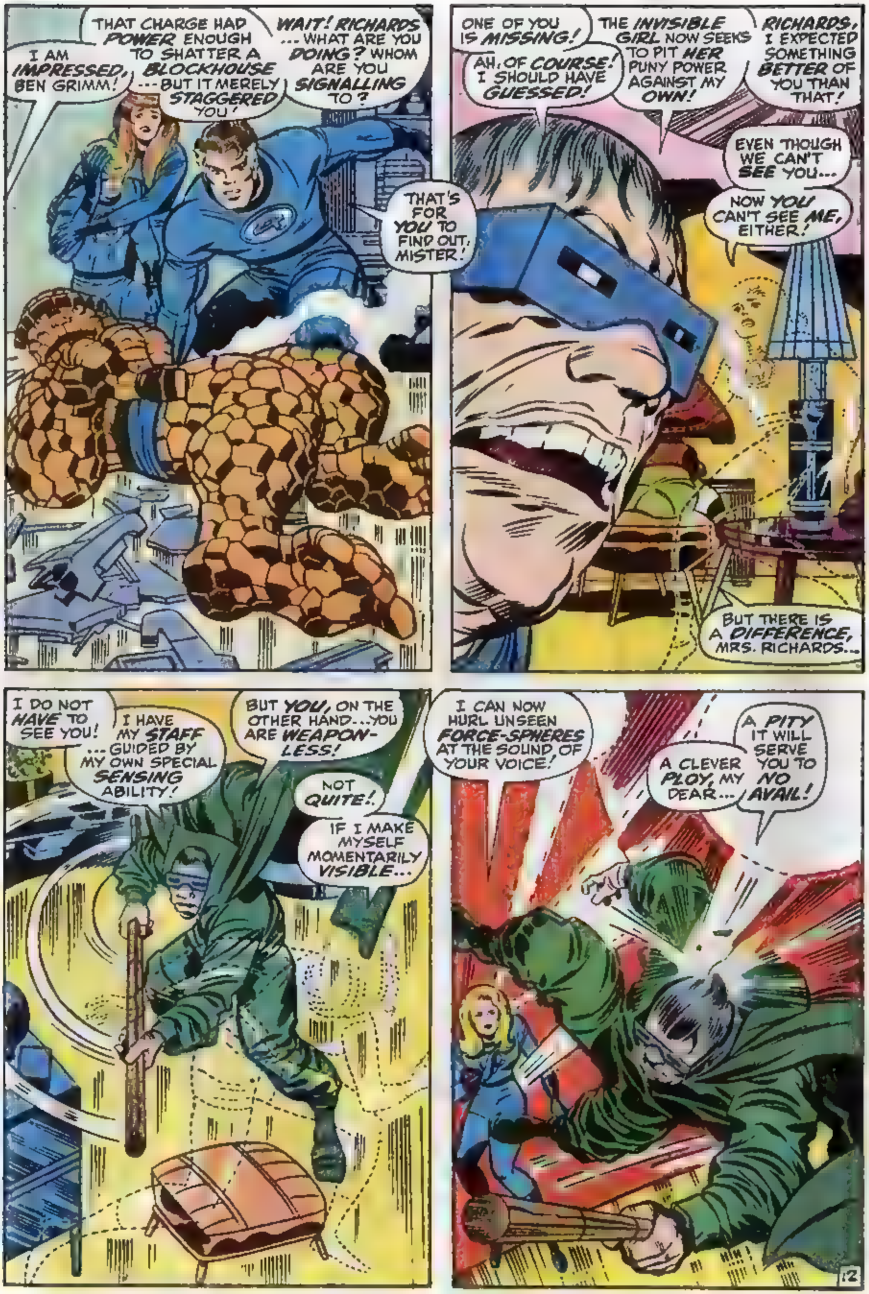
ADDRESS..............................................

CITY ......................STATE .... ZIP.

Canadian orders filled in Canada—no duty to pay

"THINK HOW HELPLESS YOUR FELLOW MEN WILL BE... MEN WHO HAVE ALWAYS TAKEN THEIR SIGHT FOR GRANTED!"
"HUMANITY WILL PANIC! CIVILIZATION WILL COME TO A STANDSTILL! IN A MATTER OF MINUTES, THE WORLD WILL BE IN CHAOS!"
"AND THEN, FROM BENEATH THE SURFACE... FROM WITHIN MY UNDERGROUND KINGDOM... MY BLINDLY OBEDIENT SUBTERRANEANS WILL EMERGE..."
MY CONQUEST WILL BE COMPLETE!
I, THE MOLE MAN, BANISHED FROM MY FELLOW MEN HALF A LIFETIME AGO... WILL RETURN AT LAST... AS MASTER OF THE EARTH!
HIS SUBTERRANEANS ARE ALMOST LIMITLESS!
WE HAVE TO STOP HIM... BEFORE THEY CAN BE UNLEASHED!
STOPPIN' HIM WILL BE A CINCH... IF WE CAN EVER FIND 'IM!
I ADMIRE YOUR RESOLVE, RICHARDS... A PITY SUCH VALOR WILL SOON BE LOST TO THE WORLD FOREVER!
10

REED! IS THERE NO WAY WE CAN FIGHT HIM?
WITH ALL OUR POWERS...ALL OUR SKILLS... HOW CAN ONE LONE MADMAN REDUCE US TO SUCH ABJECT HELPLESS-NESS?
IF HE THINKS WE'RE TAKIN' THIS SITTIN' DOWN, HE BETTER UNTHINK IT!
EASY, HONEY.. WE'RE NOT LICKED YET! WE'VE GOT TO KEEP HIM TALKING ... PLAY ON HIS VANITY!
BEN---LUNGE FORWARD---AS IF YOU SEE HIM!
BACK, YOU MUSCLEBOUND MISSHAPEN BRUTE!
YOUR BESTIAL STRENGTH CAN'T HARM ME NOW!
IT CAN'T? SO HOWCUM YA DON'T WANNA HAND RASSLE WITH ME?
THAT'S IT, BEN! HOLD HIS ATTENTION, UNTIL...
IT'S CLOBBERIN' TIME!
LOOK OUT! HIS STAFF HAS A VIBRO-CHARGE IN IT!
ARHHH!
ZAK!


I AM IMPRESSED, BEN GRIMM!
THAT CHARGE HAD POWER ENOUGH TO SHATTER A BLOCKHOUSE ---BUT IT MERELY STAGGERED YOU!
WAIT! RICHARDS ...WHAT ARE YOU DOING? WHOM ARE YOU SIGNALLING TO?
THAT'S FOR YOU TO FIND OUT, MISTER!
ONE OF YOU IS MISSING!
AH, OF COURSE! I SHOULD HAVE GUESSED!
THE INVISIBLE GIRL NOW SEEKS TO PIT HER PUNY POWER AGAINST MY OWN!
RICHARDS, I EXPECTED SOMETHING BETTER OF YOU THAN THAT!
EVEN THOUGH WE CAN'T SEE YOU...
NOW YOU CAN'T SEE ME, EITHER!
BUT THERE IS A DIFFERENCE, MRS. RICHARDS...
I DO NOT HAVE TO SEE YOU!
I HAVE MY STAFF ...GUIDED BY MY OWN SPECIAL SENSING ABILITY!
BUT YOU, ON THE OTHER HAND...YOU ARE WEAPON-LESS!
NOT QUITE!
IF I MAKE MYSELF MOMENTARILY VISIBLE...
I CAN NOW HURL UNSEEN FORCE-SPHERES AT THE SOUND OF YOUR VOICE!
A CLEVER PLOY, MY DEAR...
A PITY IT WILL SERVE YOU TO NO AVAIL!
12

I SENSED THAT YOUR MR. FANTASTIC WOULD ATTEMPT TO HURL HIMSELF AT ME WHILE YOU SERVED AS A DISTRACTION!
BUT YOU HAVE UNDER-ESTIMATED BOTH MY SPEED... AND MY BATTLE PROWESS!
UNNH!
I...MISSED HIM!
BUT WE MUSTN'T GIVE UP!
HIS GLASSES! WE HAVE TO GET HIS GLASSES!
I KNOW HE'S IN FRONT OF ME SOMEWHERE!
IF I LEAP FORWARD... ARMS OUT-STRETCHED... PERHAPS I'LL BE LUCKY ENOUGH...
ONCE AGAIN, SUE RICHARDS, YOU HAVE FOR-GOTTEN THE POWER OF MY STAFF!
AND, SINCE YOU CHOOSE TO FOOLISHLY ATTACK ME...
I HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO STOP YOU ...ONCE AND FOR ALL!
SUE! HIT THE GROUND!
I'LL STRETCH MY ARMS...AND KEEP SWINGING UNTIL...
THERE! I GOT HIM!
YOU FOOL! IN SAVING HER ...YOU'VE DESTROYED YOURSELF!
ONLY I KNOW THE EXACT POSITION TO PLACE MY HANDS UPON THIS STAFF!
THE SHOCK IS SO GREAT THAT TOUCHING IT ANY PLACE ELSE CAN BE... FATAL!
...AS YOU HAVE JUST FOUND OUT!
13

AT THAT MOMENT, FEARING FOR THE LIFE OF THE MAN SHE LOVES MOST IN ALL THE WORLD, SUE RICHARDS LUNGES FORTH LIKE AN UNCAGED TIGRESS... UNTHINKING, UNFEELING, HEEDLESS OF THE RISK... DESIRING ONLY TO PUNISH THE ONE WHO HAS INJURED HER HUSBAND...!
AND, IN HER BLIND FURY... THE DESPERATE WOMAN'S FINGERS FIND THEIR MARK---!
YOUR GLASSES! I HAVE THEM!
NO! NO! YOU MUSTN'T! YOU CAN'T...!
MY EYES ARE TOO SENSITIVE! I NEED THEIR PROTECTION!
THEN REED WAS RIGHT! WE FOUND YOUR ONE WEAKNESS!
WITHOUT THEM I CANNOT... I DARE NOT... FACE THE PAINFUL LIGHT!
I'VE DWELLED TOO LONG... IN THE DARKNESS!
YOU DARE TO WHIMPER... TO BEG FOR MERCY... AFTER WHAT YOU'VE DONE!
IF MY HUSBAND DIES... BECAUSE OF YOU...
IT WAS HIS FAULT! HE TRIED TO SEIZE THE STAFF!
I'M NOT TO BLAME! I'VE NEVER BEEN TO BLAME! NEVER! NEVER!
14

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE

ENJOY AN EXCITING, ROMANTIC, IMPRESSIVE

# LOOK ANYTIME!

## HAVE THE LOOK MEN ENVY, AND WOMEN ADMIRE WHENEVER YOU CHOOSE!

Now at last you can have the experience of wearing sideburns, mustache, or Van Dyke that is so real looking your friends will think it is your very own!

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FREE Complete instructions on how best to wear your Van Dyke, Mustache or Sideburns sent in plain wrapper with order.

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Wear All Three or Any Combination

**VAN DYKE $3** Try it alone or with any combination.

**MUSTACHE $2** Try it . . . see the difference

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**MAIL COUPON NOW!**

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O.K. I WANT TO SEE THE MANY DIFFERENT CHANGES IN MY APPERANCE. SEND THE ONES CHECKED ON A MONEY BACK GUARANTEE. PAYMENT IS ENCLOSED I MUST be 100% Satisfied or I may return everything for full refund Send color checked or ☐ please match sample of my hair enclosed.

| Rush the Following: | Please Send Order In Color Checked: | |
|---|---|---|
| ☐ Mustache $2. | ☐ Blonde | ☐ Dark Brown |
| ☐ Van Dyke $3 | ☐ Black | ☐ Grey Silver |
| ☐ Sideburns $3. | ☐ Light Brown | ☐ Dark Auburn |
| | ☐ Medium Brown | ☐ Light Auburn |

☐ I enclose $6. send all 3 (I save $2.) cash, check or money order.

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Address ..........

City .......... State .......... Zip ..........

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SOLD ON MONEY BACK GUARANTEE

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## Sell GRIT

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MAKE 5¢ PROFIT on every copy

WIN PRIZES LIKE THIS 300 — Camera, Watch, Radio, Sports Equipment, Bike Equipment, Hunting Knife, Models and other things boys like.

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GRIT is easy to sell. It is the favorite newspaper for more than 1,200,000 families from coast to coast every week.

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*In an Envelope*
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Send my first bundle of papers, selling helps and prize offers.

Name ..........

Are You a Boy? ...... Age ...... Date Born .......... Year ......

In Care of ..........

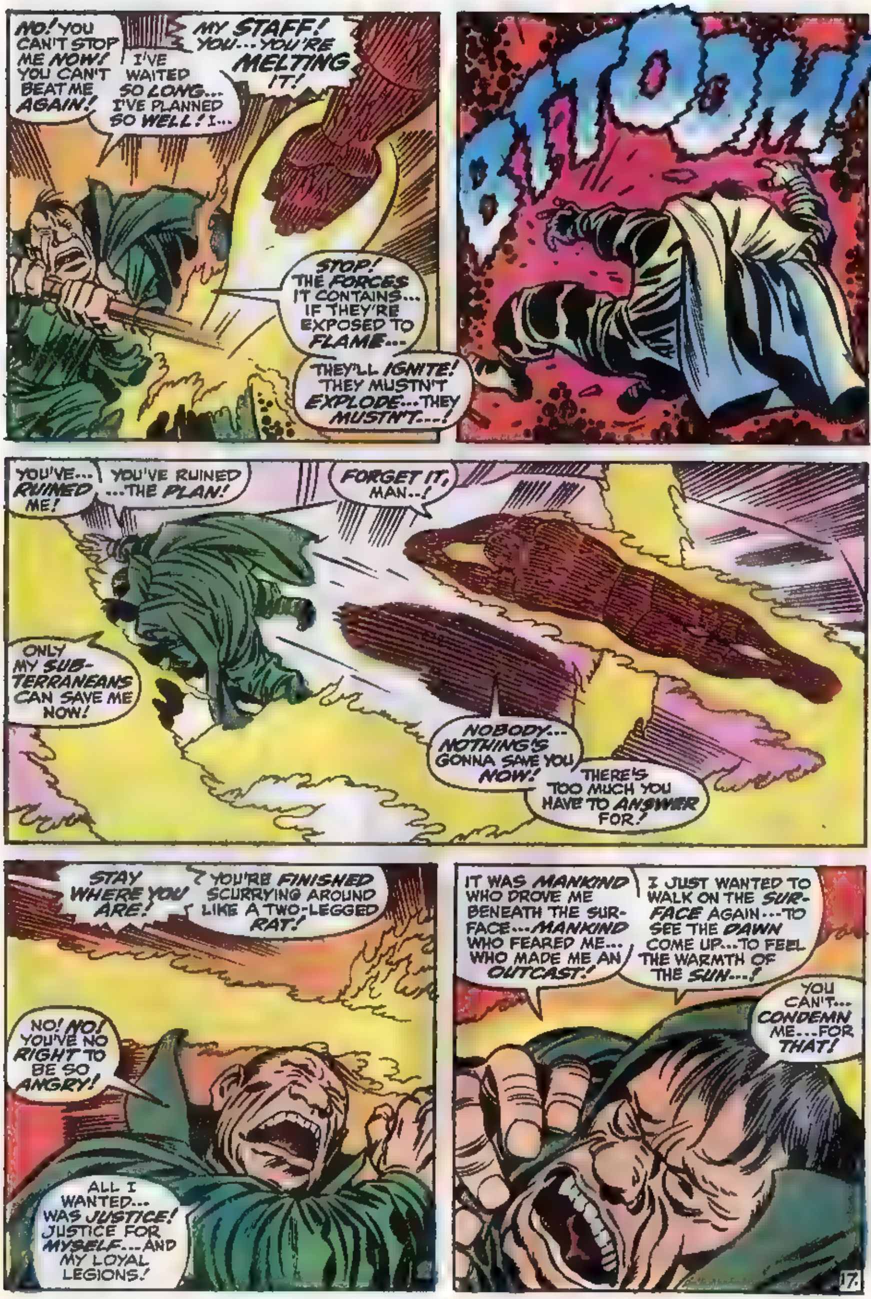
Street and No. .......... R. F. D. ..........

Post Office .......... State ......

Zip Code No.

Print Your Last Name Plainly Here

REED AND SUE HAVE DONE THEIR PART!
BUT, WE'RE A TEAM! WE'VE ALWAYS BEEN A TEAM---AND WE ALWAYS WILL BE!
NOBODY BEATS THE FANTASTIC FOUR...NOT WHILE ONE OF US IS STILL ALIVE...NOT WHILE ONE OF US CAN STILL FIGHT ON!
GIT 'IM, KID! DO IT FER OL' STRETCHO... AND YER SISTER SUZIE!
16


NO! YOU CAN'T STOP ME NOW! YOU CAN'T BEAT ME AGAIN!
I'VE WAITED SO LONG... I'VE PLANNED SO WELL! I...
MY STAFF! YOU... YOU'RE MELTING IT!
STOP! THE FORCES IT CONTAINS... IF THEY'RE EXPOSED TO FLAME...
THEY'LL IGNITE! THEY MUSTN'T EXPLODE... THEY MUSTN'T...!
BTTOOM!
YOU'VE... RUINED ME!
YOU'VE RUINED ...THE PLAN!
FORGET IT, MAN...!
ONLY MY SUB-TERRANEANS CAN SAVE ME NOW!
NOBODY... NOTHING'S GONNA SAVE YOU NOW!
THERE'S TOO MUCH YOU HAVE TO ANSWER FOR!
STAY WHERE YOU ARE!
YOU'RE FINISHED SCURRYING AROUND LIKE A TWO-LEGGED RAT!
NO! NO! YOU'VE NO RIGHT TO BE SO ANGRY!
ALL I WANTED... WAS JUSTICE! JUSTICE FOR MYSELF... AND MY LOYAL LEGIONS!
IT WAS MANKIND WHO DROVE ME BENEATH THE SUR-FACE... MANKIND WHO FEARED ME... WHO MADE ME AN OUTCAST!
I JUST WANTED TO WALK ON THE SUR-FACE AGAIN... TO SEE THE DAWN COME UP... TO FEEL THE WARMTH OF THE SUN...!
YOU CAN'T... CONDEMN ME... FOR THAT!
17

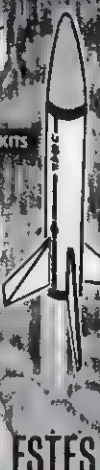
CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE

REAL FLYING MODELS

Rockets

Flights Up to 2500 ft.

30 EXCITING NEW KITS



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c.o.d.: ☐ 1 bottle ☐ 2 bottles
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Address ______
City ______ State ______ Zip ______

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CATALOG OF THOUSANDS—No. 2—25c
PASSAIC BOOK CENTER
594 MAIN AVENUE, PASSAIC, N. J. 07055

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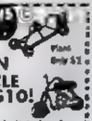

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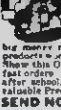

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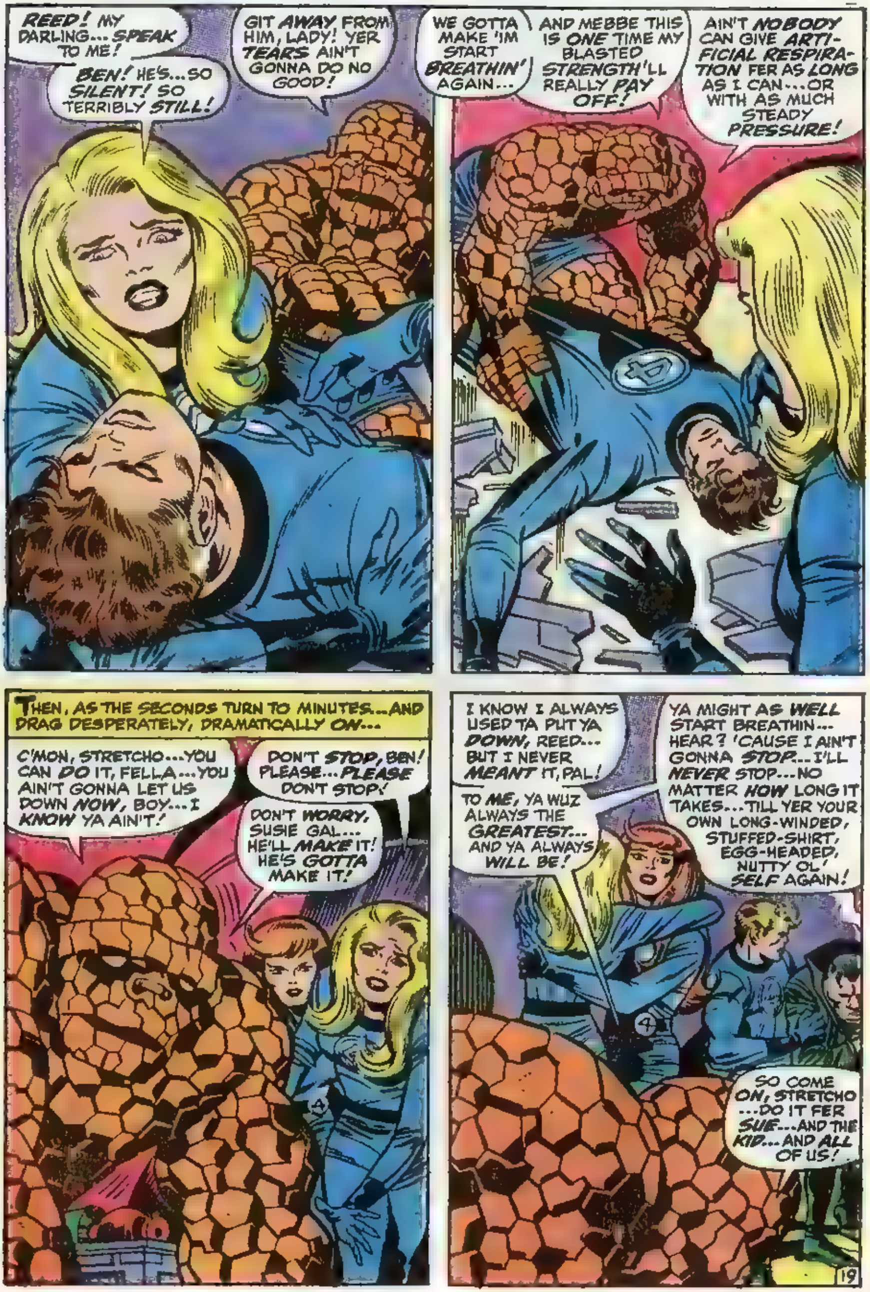
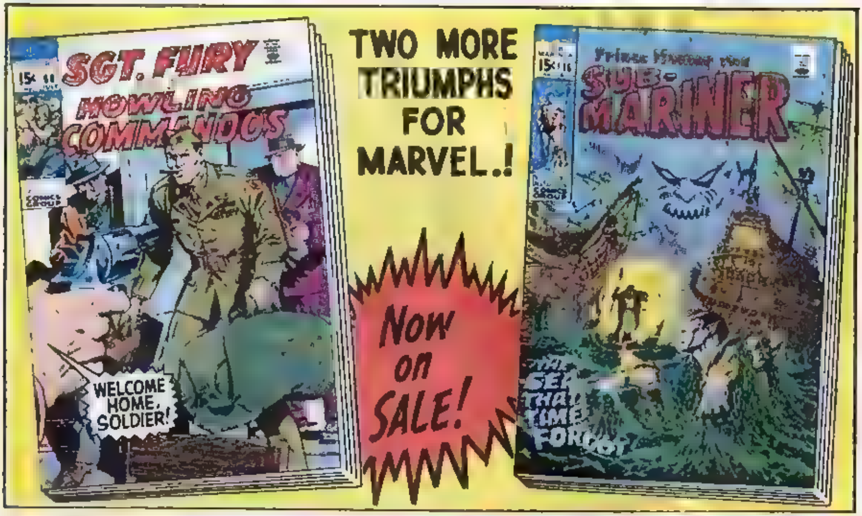

REED! MY DARLING... SPEAK TO ME!
BEN! HE'S... SO SILENT! SO TERRIBLY STILL!
GIT AWAY FROM HIM, LADY! YER TEARS AIN'T GONNA DO NO GOOD!
WE GOTTA MAKE 'IM START BREATHIN' AGAIN...
AND MEBBE THIS IS ONE TIME MY BLASTED STRENGTH'LL REALLY PAY OFF!
AIN'T NOBODY CAN GIVE ARTI-FICIAL RESPIRA-TION FER AS LONG AS I CAN... OR WITH AS MUCH STEADY PRESSURE!
THEN, AS THE SECONDS TURN TO MINUTES... AND DRAG DESPERATELY, DRAMATICALLY ON...
C'MON, STRETCHO... YOU CAN DO IT, FELLA... YOU AIN'T GONNA LET US DOWN NOW, BOY... I KNOW YA AIN'T!
DON'T STOP, BEN! PLEASE... PLEASE DON'T STOP!
DON'T WORRY, SUSIE GAL... HE'LL MAKE IT! HE'S GOTTA MAKE IT!
I KNOW I ALWAYS USED TA PUT YA DOWN, REED... BUT I NEVER MEANT IT, PAL!
TO ME, YA WUZ ALWAYS THE GREATEST... AND YA ALWAYS WILL BE!
YA MIGHT AS WELL START BREATHIN... HEAR? 'CAUSE I AIN'T GONNA STOP... I'LL NEVER STOP... NO MATTER HOW LONG IT TAKES... TILL YER YOUR OWN LONG-WINDED, STUFFED-SHIRT, EGG-HEADED, NUTTY OL' SELF AGAIN!
SO COME ON, STRETCHO ...DO IT FER SUE... AND THE KID... AND ALL OF US!
19

BEN...LOOK! LOOK!!
HE...HE'S BREATHIN'!
SUE...SUE...
I'M HERE, DARLING! EVERYTHING IS ...ALL RIGHT NOW!
WE CAN SEE AGAIN! I... KEPT HIS STAFF... POINTED AT THE WALL...WHEN HE FIRED IT!
I HOPED...IT WOULD DESTROY THE RAY...WHICH WAS KEEPING US SIGHTLESS!
WE HAD TO WIN... FOR THE SAKE OF... ALL MAN-KIND!
WELL, IF THAT DON'T TAKE THE BLUE-EYED CAKE!
A COUPLE'A MINNITS AGO HE WUZ ALMOST DONE FOR...BUT AS SOON AS HE OPENS HIS PEEPERS HE STARTS SPOUTIN' PHILOSOPHY AGAIN!
WELL, I GUESS IT'S STILL BETTER'N HAVIN' HIM JUST LYIN' THERE...NOT SAYIN' NOTHIN'!
AND I'LL SAY AMEN TO THAT, MR. GRIMM!
BUT, NO SOONER HAS ONE DANGER PASSED, WHEN...
WHILE THE SKRULL STAR-SHIPS REMAIN IN PARKING ORBIT, THE SLAVER'S PERSONAL CRAFT SILENTLY LANDS UPON TARGET EARTH...
AND THEN...
NEXT
I CLAIM THIS SLAVE!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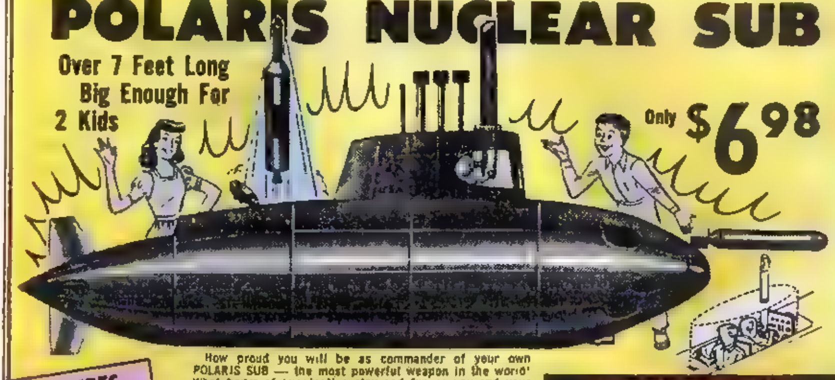

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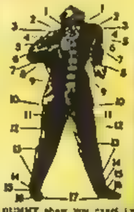


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# Fantastic Four Fan Page

Send letters to LEE and KIRBY
THE MARVEL COMICS GROUP
SECOND FLOOR 625 MADISON AV.
NEW YORK 10022 N. Y.

Dear Stan and Jack,

Phooey! It was such a pleasure to see Doc Doom back in action in FF #84, capable once again of defeating the FF in 2 minutes of Round One and of taking over the world. But, it was sheer agony to observe the degradation he went through in FF #85. First and foremost, Doc Doom would not and should not destroy a village of his own people. What has made Doctor Doom the world's greatest super-villain is that, along with his villainy, he has a degree of greatness which went along with his being a rightful king. He has occasional magnanimity that allowed him to let Daredevil walk out the front door, because Doom never fights people who aren't worthy of him. To the best of my knowledge, Doom has always been interested in power, but he never wanted to murder for its own sake and the only people he's attempted to kill have been superhero enemies.

Second, you have further degraded him by allowing him to parade around dressed up like Louis XIV and to start liking his own face. Doctor Doom has never been a silly fop or a completely villainous mass murderer, and he never will be. I demand a retraction. If you allow Doom to continue behaving like Hitler, if Doom should loose Laveria in a general uprising, I swear to you that when the Comic Lovers of the World meet in New York to decide the world's greatest super-villain, I will cast my ballot for Pasta-pot Pete. Yours, till Black Bolt becomes an opera star.

Joel Schultz, 76 Madison Ave.
Newtonville, Mass.

**We know when we wrote and drew that particular issue of F.F. that it might well turn out to be one of the most controversial of all time — which, judging by these earliest returns in our mailbox, it most definitely *is*!**

**But, since we're expecting many, many more letters on the above subjects — namely, the willingness of Dr. Doom to destroy one of his own villages and his change in attitude towards his own deformed face — we think we'll hold off all comment till *next* ish, when all of Marveldom Assembled has had a chance to have its say!**

**Meanwhile, if you want a story which obviously takes place chronologically *before* the recent Doom-F.F. confrontation, we suggest you scrounge around and try to dig up a left-over copy of MARVEL SUPER-HEROES #20, which featured the monarch of Latveria at his bludgeoning, iron-hearted best!**

**(One thing about us — we can't resist an opportunity for a plug, even for a mag which is no longer on sale!)**

Dear Stan and Jack,

In the FF #85 you made an error. (It's on page 14, panel 1). If Dr. Doom took away the powers of the Fantastic Four in issue #84, (while they were asleep) why didn't Ben turn back to his normal human self? Another thing about page 14, panel 1. How can the guard carry Ben? In case you've forgotten, he's supposed to weigh 2 tons! See if you can wriggle out of this one! So until the Iceman "flames on", make mine Marvel!

Trish Infanger, 4791 Esterbrook Rd.
Columbus, Ohio 43229

**Trish, we've got to admit that we think you're mistaken when you say that bashful Benjy weighs anything near two tons, though we seem to remember a statement somewhere to the effect that he could *lift* that much. Tell you what — if you can give us name and number of an ish that verified your version, we'll give you a — aww, you guessed it, pilgrim!**

Dear Stan and Jack,

I can't recall when you explained the Negative Zone (I stand corrected if you already have), but I have an explanation I think will suffice. Now, if you're up-to-date on your math, you will know that there are positive numbers (represented by a +) and negative numbers (indicated by a —). Now let's say dimensional worlds exist on frequencies, as do radio waves, and you've all heard of those neat little gadgets called radios, that pick up and separate these frequencies, haven't you? Well, the machine Reed uses does just this, except that it can only pick up one frequency — and this frequency is opposite ours, on the negative frequency.

Now, to simplify things, let's suppose our Universe exists on dimensional frequency + (positive) 4 and the negative zone exists on dimensional frequency — (negative) 4, and as any modern-day grammar school child knows, the opposite of a positive number is a negative number, so what Reed has invented is a machine that opens a bridge that connects us (via the distortion area) with our universe in negative. The distortion area is the mixture of the other universes between ours and the Negative Zone that Reed has not yet separated and penetrated.

Now, if I haven't cleared it all up for you, then you are being driven crazy trying to figure it out.

Allen Latawiec, 155 Hayward Place
Wallington, N. J. 07055

**You're right, Allen — we're being driven crazy trying to figure it out. Your explanation sounds pretty much like what King Kirby had in mind when he suggested the idea to Smiley — but, now that he's 'way out in California, we haven't had a chance to ask him for his latest lucid thinking on the subject! Still, one of these days . . . !**

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To Fantasy Masterpieces Unlimited,

Letters from Bernard Cicirello and Peter Marzano confirmed what I, as a reader, had thought of the Thing for quite a while now, that the latter is unable (in fact, it would be almost impossible) to survive in the society of the human race with his present physical appearance. On the other hand, supposing Ben Grimm were to regain his normal human features — what then would be the results? One of the answers could be found in panels 2, 3, and 4 on page 12 of issue #79. I feel that it is unnecessary to go into details about the aforementioned because any true believer will understand what they see.

Now, another result of Ben turning into his normal human appearance would be that he would soon lose his appeal to everyone. Even if he would be able to change back to the Thing at will or regain his strength as a normal being, he would not be the same character or of the same personality as before.

In other words, the whole point of the letter is to prove that the Thing would be through, a washed-up character in the FF or any other Marvel mag for that matter. Looking at it either way, having normal human features or being the grotesque Thing will not change what would be set as the fate of Benjamin Grimm. It would be well to dismiss the Thing as a "golden age" character of a bygone era. And, his demise would certainly surpass the now classic "Death of Professor Xavier". Then, too, the elimination of our orange-marmalade friend would solve the problem of the number of members in the team. Remaining members would be a double husband-wife team consisting of Reed & Sue and Johnny & Crystal.

Masao Kono, P. O. Box 642
Kapaa, Kauai, Hawaii 96746

Dear Stan,

Somewhere there is a place where the fabric of Time, Space, and Matter are unaffected by the normal laws of the universe. A place where there is unending turmoil, birth, and destruction, where planets half in and out of space-time collide, releasing unknown energy radiations which in turn interact causing unthinkable holocaust. But, some-Time, some-Where these energy emissions combined and produced a sentient-being with no heart, no soul, no love. Here it remained, feeding and growing on these radiations while undergoing subtle sub-atomic changes until there evolved GALACTUS.

Of his first life, he had no form, just a drifting time-spanning force which was aware but did not yet know what his purpose was. Until, encountering a planet he observed a "being" and so for the first time used his cosmic power, to give himself form and substance. Needing a means of directing his travel, he created the Universe Spanning Shere. Finding himself growing weaker and smaller in stature, Galactus succumbed to an unbearable urge and drains a planet of its energy — and thus discovers that to stay alive he must destroy.

Now, countless numbers of people loath and curse the name of Galactus for destroying their planets.

But WHY?!!! Why should they feel this way?

Galactus, whose first awareness was of the destruction going on around him, has never known friendship and love of others, the singing of a bird, the sweet fragrance of a rose, or the thrill of seeing the sun playing in the hair of a beautiful girl. These things which even we take for granted. Do not judge him harshly for he too is here for some unfathomable purpose. Perhaps — he is the focal point which keeps the Universe together.

So that may be why
Galactus Must Not Die.
But shall this be the fate of all,
to destroy everything
because we couldn't understand one another.

Gregory Pasternak, RR #1 North
Williston, N. D.

**Thanks for those sentiments, Greg.**

**We've always tried to show that Galactus does not consider himself a murderer — that there is a grander, even tragic aspect to his awesome nature. And you'll be seeing more, learning more of this most unique of comics-mag characters in future Marvel mags — most especially within the pages of THOR. (Which, being also drawn by King Kirby, ought to make it about as authentic as an ominous origin can possibly *be!*)**

Dear Stan and Jack,

I'm sick and tired of all the fans who write in and tell you to cut out all of the FF's problems and let them be "normal" superheroes! I mean, have you ever seen a normal superhero? Only in BRAND ECHH comics! The success of the FF was due mainly to the fact that they quarreled amongst themselves, and had similar problems like the Thing quitting the team or the whole outfit going bankrupt.

As you said, Stan, "The first cliché in the Fantastic Four was: 'All superheroes wore costumes.'" This was a mistake because comic book readers like off-beat things, but superhero fans do demand costumes. All your fans were, and still are, after you to change the FF's costumes. I think the FF's costumes are great because they are simple. (Has anyone ever been after you to change Spider-Man's costume?)

The whole concept of the FF was different from anything produced in 20 years, which also attributed to its success. The concept with Spider-Man wasn't as original as the FF's, as it was based on Peter Parker avenging the death of his Uncle Ben. I guess it was just his bizzare costume and his unique ways of traveling around, swinging on a web rather than in a jet-car or something, and his battle-tactics that fandom had been craving. It was Marvel who first introduced the "new look" to comics. Let's all pay a tribute to Marvel and its supreme line of mags!

Dan (the Man) English, 3856 W. 104th St.
Inglewood, Calif. 90303

Dear Stan and Jack,

I'm glad to see you are developing Crystal from a powerless minor character in FF #62,#80. (See for yourself. She used her powers only once, and that was against Johnny.)

In regards to Sue and (?) — WHAT's HIS NAME!!?? Don't let him be like Agent 13 (no name for years) or even worse, like Hawkeye. (He's been around for over four years, in every issue of the AVENGERS since #16, and just now received a name! No wonder the Black Widow doesn't go out with him!)

Jerry Sinkovec, 4020 N. 25th St.
Milwaukee, Wisc. 53209

***Now** she can hold her head up high in public with our erstwhile archer, Jer — 'cause as you might just have noticed, AVENGERS #64 finally revealed that Hawkeye's real name is Clint Barton. Only, now Hawkeye is Goliath, and Goliath is Yellowjacket, and — how did we get **into** this mess, anyhow? And in an F.F. letters page, at that!*

NEXT NOW STRIKES... THE SKRULL!

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